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TO:	FROM:
Examiner Katherine W. Mitchell	Gregory D. DeGrazia
COMPANY:	DATE:
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office	11/30/2004
FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
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CLIENT NUMBER:	SENDER'S FAX NUMBER:
60,152-1047	(248) 645-1568
RE:	
Response to Election/Restriction Requirement	
Serial No. 10/811,658	

☐ URGENT ☒ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Attached is our Response to Election/Restriction Requirement regarding the above-referenced application.

*** PLEASE CONFIRM SAFE DELIVERY OF THIS FACSIMILE ***

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Vrana, et al.
Appl. No. : 10/811,658
Filed : March 29, 2004
Title : SELF-ATTACHING FASTENER AND METHOD OF INSTALLATION
Examiner : Katherine W. Mitchell
Grp./A.U. : 3677
Docket No. : 60,152-1047

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant has reviewed Examiner's restriction required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 requiring Applicant to select between the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-13, drawn to panel fastener, classified in class 411, subclass 179.
- II. Claims 14-23, drawn to method of using fastener including die, classified in class 29, subclass 5.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion that two inventions, one drawn to a panel fastener, and one drawn to a method of using a fastener including die, require two separate searches. Applicant respectfully contends a single search would be required for a self-attaching female fastener and a method of attaching the self-attaching female fastener as the claimed elements are substantially the same between the claims directed toward "a self-attaching female fastener" and the claims directed toward "a method of attaching self-attaching female fastener."


Any. Docket No. 60,152-1047

However, in compliance with the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects to prosecute claims 1-13 drawn to a panel fastener with traverse. Therefore, Applicant hereby cancels claims 14-23, drawn to a method of attaching a self-attaching female fastener to a metal panel, but retains the right to prosecute these claims at a later date.

Although it is believed that no fee is due for the filing of this Response, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayments regarding this Response.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

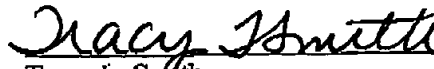


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Dated: November 30, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the attached Response to Restriction/Election Requirement is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Katherine W. Mitchell, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on November 30, 2004.



Tracy L. Smith

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